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TELEGRAM

Department of State

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SENT TO: Amembassy, PARIS TOPOL 209 PRIORITY

POLTO 179

Agree Monday meeting needs preface giving our general view recent Berlin events. Use following line:

Communist closure Soviet sector border with West Berlin is major Soviet move in deepening crisis over Berlin. Direct countermeasures such as West has employed in past to meet more limited Communist actions have been thoroughly examined and appear in general be inadequate. Available measures in fact more likely give impression weakness than strength. Viewing latest Soviet move as one action in broader East-West conflict, it is clear that most important and urgent task for West is increased military preparedness by all NATO members. Latest Soviet action, which dangerously heightens state of tension between East and West, must be read as unequivocal sign of Soviet intention to press with all means to achievement of Soviet and ~~East~~ East German goals on West Berlin. Viewed in this light it is apparent most effective and meaningful response to ~~latest~~ latest Communist action is not solely matter for Three Powers or

Four but for all NATO Allies.

Special problem was clearly need to reassure West Berliners, ~~understandably shaken by menacing deployment East German and Soviet~~ ~~understandably shaken by menacing deployment East German and Soviet~~

Classified by: EB 8/19
Declassify on: EUR-RA: HRP/MS/MLT
Classification approved by: RA EUR - Foy Kohler

GER - Mr. Brandin
RA - Mr. McGill

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WM Cleared with US Colby (SS)

REVIEWED BY HEH Date 12/21/90

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~~Appropriate occasion express their understanding and support of NAC move~~
forces. Hence decision re strengthening of U.S. garrison Berlin. Request you
indicate to others in NAC or bilaterally that it would be helpful if their
governments would seek appropriate occasion express their understanding and support
of this move. Suggest use also Wireless File Report Secretary's "Meet the Press"
interview Aug. 20.

Rush
(FOL)

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